



PATENT

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
(006340/00006)**

Applicants: Nagahara, et al
Application No.: 10/685,133
Filed: October 14, 2003
Title: Wear Protection for Musical Wind Instruments

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

I hereby state that the following:

- Information Disclosure Statement
- Copies of Form 1449 (One Form) and Notices of References Cited (Two Notices)
- Return Postcard

is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail under 37 C.F.R. § 1.8, on **January 8, 2004** and is addressed P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

January 8, 2004

Date

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Docket No. 006340/00006

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Nagahara, et al.
SERIAL NO. 10/685,133
FILED: October 14, 2003
FOR: Wear Protection for Musical Wind Instruments

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §§1.56 and 1.97, Applicant herewith submits the publications and/or patents shown on the attached form PTO-1449, for consideration by the Examiner in connection with the examination of the above-identified patent application.

REMARKS

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.97, this statement is being filed (CHECK ONE):

- X (1) within three (3) months of the **Filing Date** or before the mailing date of the **First Office Action** on the merits; or
- (2) after the period defined in (1) but before the mailing date of a **Final Rejection** or **Notice of Allowance**, and the requisite Certification or fee under Rule 1.17(p), is included herein; or
- (3) after the mailing date of a **Final Rejection** or **Notice of Allowance** but before the payment of the **Issue Fee**, and the requisite Certification and fee are included herein.

It is respectfully requested that each of the documents shown on the attached form(s) PTO-1449 be made of record in this application. Copies of these documents (CHECK ONE):

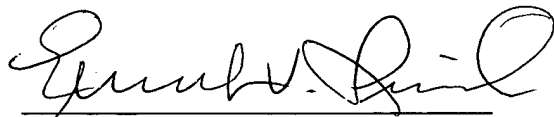
- are enclosed herewith; or
- X are in the file of related application Serial No. 09/919,154, filed July 31, 2001 and are thus not being resubmitted herein. A copy of the PTO Form 1449 that was submitted in this case is enclosed. It is requested also that prior art which was identified by the Examiner in two Office Actions for this case also be incorporated into this Information Disclosure Statement. Copies of the Notice of References Cited documents are enclosed from each of these Office Actions are also enclosed.

Early examination and allowance of the present application are respectfully solicited.

FEE AUTHORIZATION

Should any fee associated with the submission of this paper not be attached hereto as a check, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the missing fee to our Deposit Account, No. 19-0733. Any overpayments should be credited to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



Ernest V. Linek (Reg. No. 29,822)
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Date: January 8, 2004

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

1

of

1

Complete if Known

Application Number

Filing Date

First Named Inventor

Nagahara

Group Art Unit

Examiner Name

Attorney Docket Number	01-023-KN
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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

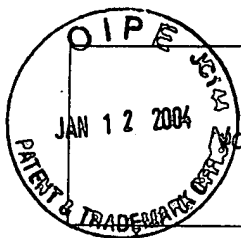
Examiner
Signature

Date
Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO:** Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.



Notice of References Cited

Application/Control No.

09/919,154

Applicant(s)/Patent Under
Reexamination
NAGAHARA, KANICHI

Examiner

Shih-yung Hsieh

Art Unit

2837

Page 1 of 1

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		Document Number Country Code-Number-Kind Code	Date MM-YYYY	Name	Classification
	A	US-3,685,388	08-1972	Young, Niels O.	84/384
	B	US-			
	C	US-			
	D	US-			
	E	US-			
	F	US-			
	G	US-			
	H	US-			
	I	US-			
	J	US-			
	K	US-			
	L	US-			
	M	US-			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		Document Number Country Code-Number-Kind Code	Date MM-YYYY	Country	Name	Classification
	N					
	O					
	P					
	Q					
	R					
	S					
	T					

NON-PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		Include as applicable: Author, Title Date, Publisher, Edition or Volume, Pertinent Pages)
	U	
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	X	

*A copy of this reference is not being furnished with this Office action. (See MPEP § 707.05(a).)
Dates in MM-YYYY format are publication dates. Classifications may be US or foreign.



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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		Document Number Country Code-Number-Kind Code	Date MM-YYYY	Name	Classification
	A	US-3,421,398	01-1969	Whiteside et al.	384/202
	B	US-5,299,486	04-1994	Weingrill, Roberto	84/380R
	C	US-			
	D	US-			
	E	US-			
	F	US-			
	G	US-			
	H	US-			
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